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AH council discusses firefighter pay

by NICK BERNARD
Times Staff

The following are brief reports of items discussed during a Feb. 3 meeting of Algonquin Highlands Council, held virtually.

Fire Chief Mike French presented a proposal outlining new hourly rates for firefighters within the Algonquin Highlands fire services. Currently, all members of the fire service make \$20.51 per hour across the board, with the new proposed rates based on the performance and responsibility of each position. While council agreed with much of the proposal, the decision was made to defer further conversation on the proposal for another time.

Overall, the financial impact of the proposal would cost the township \$9,294.50, which French reports is expected to be close to neutral on the township's budget.

Under the new rates, recruits would earn \$16 per hour, before moving on to \$20.51 per hour upon completing the required National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) certifications. On the top end, fire captains would earn \$23.51 per hour, and the district fire chief would earn \$25.01 per hour.

The decision to defer came from concern

see FURTHER page 5



And they're off ...

Travis Grubb waves the green flag on Feb. 6 during the first weekend of ice racing at Minden Fairgrounds. For more photos from the track, see Pages 12 and 13. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

Hope for economy, growing disparities: report

by NICK BERNARD
Times Staff

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, along with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC), released the sixth annual Ontario Economic Report on Feb. 6, offering a view of the economic forecast for

2022.

According to a statement from the chamber, the 72-page OER provides regional and sector-specific data on business confidence, policy priorities, and economic indicators, which together provide a unique view on the hurdles ahead.

Inflating costs of raw materials and trans-

portation at the producer level have affected consumer prices, which rose 3.5 per cent and are expected to rise another 3.5 per cent in 2022. Ontario's year-over-year housing price growth was above 30 per cent in Dec. 2021.

In Muskoka and the Kawarthas - including Haliburton County - employment grew by

see EMPLOYMENT page 3



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Schmale hopes Conservatives can find a new uniter

by **STEPHEN PETRICK**
Special to the Times

Haliburton's Conservative MP hopes his party can find a new leader that can bring the country together amid much frustration and division, after his colleagues moved quickly to remove leader Erin O'Toole last week.

In an interview from Ottawa on Feb. 3, Jamie Schmale downplayed any notion that his party was in disarray, but acknowledged there are different viewpoints within the Conservative party.

"I think all Canadians are frustrated, are tired, they're done with COVID; they want to know that there's a light at the end of the tunnel. I think our members are no different," he said.

Those frustrations and the fact that the party was evaluating its next steps after losing a fall federal election that it thought was winnable, meant that some action had to be taken, he added.

"I think all of that boiled together and culminated to a point where the leadership of Erin was questioned and it was brought to a vote."

Schmale is the Member of Parliament for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock. He was elected to represent the riding for a third

straight term in last fall's federal election.

While it was a landslide win for Schmale locally, the national story was different, as the Tories failed to de-throne Liberal leader Justin Trudeau as prime minister. Trudeau is now in his third term as the nation's leader. Just like in 2019, the 2021 election saw the Conservative party win the national popular vote, but not enough seats in the House of Commons to lead the country, giving the Liberals a second straight minority government.

Conservative party members voted to have O'Toole become their leader after Andrew Scheer stepped down following the 2019 election. However, O'Toole, who represents the neighbouring riding of Durham, saw his time as leader come to an abrupt halt on Feb. 1 when members of the Conservative caucus held a quickly-arranged vote on party leadership. Seventy-three Conservative MPs voted for a change in leadership, with just 45 voting to keep O'Toole on board.

Schmale declined to reveal how he voted, citing "caucus confidentiality" rules. However, he has publicly supported O'Toole in the past. He supported O'Toole's first run for leadership in 2019, when he ultimately lost to Scheer. Following the vote, Schmale released a statement to thank O'Toole for his

service. He described O'Toole as "a friend and a mentor."

Despite this, Schmale did not express any bitterness when discussing the situation. He said whenever a Conservative party member loses an election, there's a mandatory leadership review process, so the vote was not surprising.

When asked whether the party is becoming too divided to function properly, Schmale answered calmly.

"I think we're all wanting a change in government, all the party members. There are frustrations. Some people were happy about some things, some were not. I think it comes down to the fact that there was a mandatory review coming anyway. I think there was a desire to change."

Schmale said that some division within the party is to be expected, given that Conservatives come from different parts of the country and have roots in various different ideologies.

He pointed out that these members usually rally around the common ideology they share; a belief that government should be small and taxes should be low.

He said he believes the party can find a new leader that can champion this belief and unite Canadians, citing Stephen Harper's run

as prime minister, from 2006 to 2015 as a successful example.

"The next leader has to have a bold vision for Canadians," he said.

The Conservative party announced on Feb. 2 that Candice Bergen, a Manitoba-based MP, will serve as interim leader.

Schmale said the party will look to have a new, permanent leader in place by the summer, so that person is in a good position to advocate for Canadians when Parliament resumes from its summer break in the fall.

He expects the leadership race to centre largely around fiscal issues, given that inflation is abnormally high, and that's an issue that impacts virtually all Canadians.

"The kitchen table issues, I think, are going to be front and centre," he said.

Schmale's statement acknowledged the extraordinary challenge O'Toole faced.

"The job is a difficult one during normal times, but was made all the more harder during the COVID-19 pandemic," he wrote.

The statement also rallied Conservatives to come together.

"Now is the time to move forward with a new leader who will unite our country and provide an alternative to rising inflation and deficit and unparalleled divisions created by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau."

Modernization funding announced for Minden Hills, county

Two projects - the Haliburton County Paramedic Service master plan and a human resources information system modernization for the township of Minden Hills - will benefit from funding from the provincial government.

Last week, Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock made the announcement about the funding, totaling \$101,760 for the County of Haliburton's project, and \$81,357 for the Minden Hills project.

"Municipalities can use the funding to conduct reviews of local services and administrative operations to find efficiencies, including accelerating the creation of new housing through streamlined development approvals and working with neighbouring municipalities to share services," reads a Feb. 4 press release from Scott's office.

According to the press release the funding is part of \$28 million the government is spending through the Municipal Modernization Program to support 322 projects that make the delivery of local services for residents and businesses more efficient.

"Development of a comprehensive master plan for the county is extremely important for us to determine the future requirements of our ambulance service and community paramedic program so that we can continue to provide exceptional patient care to both residents and visitors in Haliburton County," said Tim Waite, director for Haliburton County Paramedic Service.

County Warden Liz Danielsen said the master plan funding was exciting.

"For some time now, Haliburton has been experiencing substantially increased call volumes, pressures associated with transfers for diagnostics as well as managing the new community paramedicine programs," she said. "Given the changing atmosphere we have found the need to carefully study our management structure, assess our existing bases and determine where additional resources will be required. Haliburton has seen considerable growth and we need to carve out the best path to move forward and continue to offer exemplary service to our residents."



Funding delivered through the Municipal Modernization Program to the County of Haliburton to develop a master plan for the Haliburton County Paramedic Service and to the township of Minden Hills to support human resources information system modernization was announced on Feb. 4. Representatives of Haliburton County's paramedic service were joined by County Warden Liz Danielsen, Haliburton County Paramedic Service director Tim Waite and Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, who made the announcement on behalf of the Ontario government. /Photo submitted by the office of Laurie Scott

Trisha McKibbin, CAO/clerk of Minden Hills township said the township was "delighted" to receive funding in support of the purchase and implementation of a human resources information system. "This software will enable the municipality to modernize from a paper-based system and will positively impact all HR functions including recruitment, performance man-

agement, training records, payroll and time management," she told the *Times*. "We are looking forward to undertaking this project in 2022."

Also last week, as part of the province's Community Building Fund, Scott announced the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129 in Haliburton would be receiving \$104,100 for facility upgrades, and the municipality

of Dysart et al would be receiving \$162,000 to renovate and transform two outdoor rinks into multi-purpose courts for hockey, pickleball and basketball with benches for a rest area.

- Staff

Employment shortages still exist

from page 1

2.4 per cent after falling 2.5 per cent in 2019 and another 1.0 per cent in 2020. The chamber predicts a stronger uptick in 2022, with employment expected to rise by 3.5 per cent.

The region's economic growth is owed to its concentration of businesses in construction, manufacturing, and tourism-related industries – all of which are anticipated to make strong recoveries, assuming Ontario continues to ease public health restrictions as planned.

From a provincial perspective, the report outlines business confidence, which increased from a record low in 2020, amid progress on vaccinations and reopening.

Last year, 2021, also saw positive employment growth, with the exception of Northern Ontario, though several regions still struggle to offset the major job losses seen during the first year of the pandemic.

Small businesses found themselves preoccupied with cost relief measures, such as business taxes and electricity rates. In contrast, larger businesses focused more on long-term infrastructure, and faced issues around regulations and workplace development for employees.

Most sectors – 62 per cent – faced labour shortages over the year, with those shortages expected to continue over the next year.

Overall, the report states that 29 per cent of Ontario businesses were confident in Ontario's economic outlook, and 57 per cent were confident in the outlook of their organizations. More pessimism was observed in smaller businesses, those located in border regions, organizations led by women and people with disabilities, and businesses in the arts, entertainment, and agricultural sectors.

Ontario's economic indicators began to see positive momentum in 2021 after hitting a record low in 2020. Real GDP rebounded by 4.2 per cent and is expected to grow another 4.1 per cent this year. Meanwhile, employment grew 4.9 per cent and is forecasted to see 4.2 per cent growth in 2022.

Forecasts for 2022 suggest employment will recover to pre-pandemic levels for all regions except Toronto, Hamilton-Niagara Peninsula, London, Windsor-Sarnia, and Northwestern Ontario, suggesting that disparities continue to plague the province's economy.

The 2021 Ontario Economic Report is available to view on the OCC's homepage at <https://occ.ca/>



Scott Danilko, at front, leads the "Haliburton Freedom Rally," which gathered in the Kawartha Dairy parking lot before driving through downtown Minden and other communities in Haliburton County on Feb. 5. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

Rally against vaccine mandate drives through Haliburton County

by SUE TIFFIN
Editor

Scott Danilko said a local rally he organized for people to voice their opposition against federal and provincial vaccine mandates and support the "Freedom Convoy" currently happening in Ottawa was larger than he had anticipated.

"It was a heck of a lot bigger than what I ever dreamed," he told the *Times*.

Haliburton Highlands OPP said there were about 60 vehicles in the procession of cars, trucks and SUVs, many of them decorated with Canadian flags, that left Kawartha Dairy's parking lot in Minden on Feb. 5, driving through Minden's downtown, Haliburton village, West Guilford, Carnarvon and back to Minden. A roadside rally also took place in Haliburton. Danilko said in a video he saw of the rally along the route, there were approximately 125 vehicles involved.

The event was organized through a Facebook page created on Feb. 2 that has, at press time, 1,300 members. Admins for the public group are Robyn Shaw and Holly Archer.

"I'm basically for three things: I'm for unity, hope and freedom," said Danilko. "The unity, we definitely pulled our

community together, and we gave the people along our routes hope and hopefully we get freedom in the end with all this. I stand behind our truckers and our country."

Danilko said to him, freedom means freedom of choice regarding the COVID-19 vaccine. He said he is pro-choice, and doesn't think people should lose their jobs over their vaccination status.

"I'd like to see our country united again, everybody on the same page," he said. "Hopefully everything comes through and we get our free country again."

The protest in downtown Ottawa has been ongoing since Jan. 28, the City of Ottawa declaring a state of emergency this past weekend and a judge granting an interim injunction to stop the steady honking of horns for the next 10 days. Initially the protest focused on federal vaccine requirements for cross-border truckers, but now includes demonstrations against public health measures, including masking and vaccine passports, which were put into place by the provincial government.

Danilko said another local rally is planned for the upcoming weekend.

"Sounds like this weekend's going to be even bigger than the last one," he said.

Police reported no incidents related to the local rally.

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(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

February 10 – Regular Council Meeting
February 24 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting, please download by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/. Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Please take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding two Public Meetings at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February, 24, 2022 during its Meeting of Council via web conference regarding its Fees and Charges By-law; and the 2022 fees for the Haliburton Highlands Water Trails. More information will be provided at a later date.

WINTER SAND

Winter sand is now available at the upper parking lot of the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Community Centre, by the Skate Park. Please note this is for Individual Use Only – No Commercial Users please.

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Each year we respond to fires that are caused by improper disposal of hot coals and ashes. Treat all ashes and coals as hot, even if you think they are cool. Properly dispose of them in a metal container and wet them down. Keep the container outside your home and away from any other combustible material.

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SUMMER STUDENTS WANTED!

We are recruiting for Summer Students for Parks and Cultural Centre. Positions are for a 16 week period from May to August. Rate of pay is \$15/hour. Visit www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/ for more information and how to apply.

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MOH acknowledges frustration, emphasizes community effort

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Editor

The following are brief reports from a Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit press conference with medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking, held virtually on Feb. 2.

When asked her thoughts on the current protests in Ottawa and throughout the province regarding vaccines, vaccine mandates and public health restrictions, Bocking said:

“I think it’s fair to be frustrated, I think the pandemic overall has caused lots of frustration with many individuals and impacted people in lots of different ways and so there are many people whose livelihoods have been impacted in ways that will take a long time to overcome,” she said. “I respect the right of people to protest and share their opinion.”

She said she does not believe that the “really disappointing kind of behaviours that have been reported from some protestors in Ottawa,” reflects all protestors.

“... [B]ut it is really concerning to see some of the rhetoric and some of the slogans that protestors are sharing which are completely misinformation, harmful. It is never OK to compare a vaccine mandate to genocide. I think some of those messages are really problematic. I know they’re not reflective of everybody but I think sometimes as I’ve been reminded by other folks ... your impact is sometimes different from what your intent is. I’m hopeful there’s a resolution soon especially for those folks living in Ottawa.”

Bocking was also asked if the protestors’ sentiments were frustrating for her.

“I think it will always be there, I think we’ve learned with previous vaccine-preventable diseases that there will always be individuals that don’t support the science or that have alternative understanding,” she said. “I think we can always expect that there are people that oppose any sort of restrictions in the name of public health. I think the COVID pandemic

has stressed all of us but without public health restrictions, without vaccines, I can’t imagine what the impact would have been on communities, so I really want to thank and emphasize all of the good work that has happened and all of those community members that have supported restrictions, supported vaccination because by far that’s the majority of our community. This is a small proportion of people, very small relative to our overall population that are expressing their frustration right now.”

A peak and a plateau

Bocking noted the provincial messaging that the Omicron wave, or number of infections, seems to have peaked and could potentially be on the decline, and said the HKPRD region tends to be a week behind the provincial average.

“I think that it’s quite likely that we will have peaked this week or this past week,” she said.

She also said it was important to remember that while the peak might have occurred, a plateau was also occurring. Lab-reported infections that had been reported to the health unit – those results only from people working or living in high-risk settings who are able to access PCR tests – have decreased from 100 to around 40 or 50 each day. The test positivity rate had stagnated, she said, staying at about 12 per cent over the past three weeks, and outbreaks have declined, with 15 in progress at the time of the briefing – 10 in long-term care facilities and five in other congregate settings.

Booster recommended for protective benefit

“Despite the fact that our case numbers might be coming down a bit or plateauing, as you’ve likely heard from provincial media reports, we should expect to see ongoing hospital admissions and ICU admissions associated with COVID-19 for another couple of weeks,” said Bocking.

At the time of the briefing there were 19 individuals admitted to hospital and six in the ICU. Since Jan. 1 there have been 50 hospital admissions, 13 ICU admissions and 14 deaths across the region.

Among hospital admissions, Bocking said the majority are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated, with 56 per cent of those hospitalized having had no vaccinations, and 61 per cent admitted to ICU having not received vaccinations.

“There continues to be very good emerging data from not just Ontario numbers but also jurisdictions in the United States, the United Kingdom, that demonstrates the added protective benefit of a booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine,” said Bocking. “That continues to play a key role in helping to blunt the impact of Omicron variant on our healthcare system.”

Bocking said the health unit is still hearing a number of questions from community members about why the total number of people vaccinated or unvaccinated seems to be the same among people admitted to hospitals, and directed the public to a video created by the Eastern Ontario health unit that speaks to rates of risk as opposed to absolute numbers and “why we really can’t talk about absolute numbers of vaccinated/unvaccinated because that doesn’t tell us really the

true story among individuals admitted to hospital. What we really need to be talking about is the rate of infection, or the risk of infection, among people that are either not vaccinated or those that have received two dose or a booster dose.”

Bocking said the risk factors previously identified in earlier waves of the pandemic that put somebody at higher risk for a severe outcome from infection remain the same: older age, obesity, medical conditions such as diabetes, chronic lung disease and other heart conditions.

Vaccination by the numbers

As of Jan. 31, 83 per cent of the population across the region that is 70 or older has received their booster dose. Of those aged 50 and older, 70.3 per cent have received their booster dose, and of those 18 and older, 57.5 per cent have received their booster dose.

Bocking said she’s hearing from some people a question of why someone should get the booster shot if those that are vaccinated are still becoming infected, and a comment of “we all should just get [the virus] so we don’t need the vaccine.”

“In response to that, increase your protection significantly against severe illness associated with COVID-19, and every time we prevent someone from developing a severe infection from COVID-19 and needing to be admitted to the hospital, we are helping to alleviate the pressure on our hospital to ensure that other ongoing healthcare needs are being met,” she said.

She said that those who are looking for a booster dose after being infected with COVID-19 should wait until they are out of isolation and no longer having symptoms to do so.

Vaccine clinics beginning at schools

Vaccine clinics are being offered at schools where there is enough interest for those looking for an accessible, convenient space to have their children vaccinated, but Bocking reiterated that the health unit is not vaccinating any child that has not been given parental permission. As of Jan. 31, 46.9 per cent of children in the area had received their first dose of vaccine.

Bocking said there are two things to consider in terms of the importance of vaccinating children, one being the benefit for the child.

“We know that the risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19 is less for children, it’s a lower risk,” she said. “We know that risk is not zero. There have been children admitted to hospital, admitted to ICUs, and a very very small number of deaths ... There is benefit for that individual child in receiving that vaccine.”

The other is the community-level benefit.

“In helping to protect individuals that are vulnerable and aren’t getting the full benefit of vaccines because of age or other medical conditions, the vaccines just aren’t as protective for those individuals,” she said. “We know that, the same as adults, children can get COVID-19 infection, they can pass it on, at a community-level. The more people vaccinated the less transmission we do have, and then we’ll start to see overall less virus. I think they also play a key role in helping overall our community be well and prevent COVID-19 transmission.”

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COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths by County							
County	Current Cases Not Resolved	Current Probable Cases	Confirmed Cases (Total to date)	Confirmed Cases Resolved (Total to date)	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Confirmed Deaths (Total to date)	Probable Deaths (Total to date)
Haliburton	12	0	358	345	5	1	0
Kawartha Lakes	146	1	3,229	3,028	90	55	13
Northumberland	59	1	2,910	2,826	75	25	0
Pending Information	1	0	25	24	0	0	0
Total	218	2	6,522	6,223	170	81	13

COVID-19 data update

Four new cases of COVID-19 were confirmed in the Feb. 7 report from the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District health unit, which shares information from Feb. 4. The health unit has noted that due to only individuals in high-risk settings being tested, the number of reported cases of COVID-19 is an underestimate of the community spread. Also on Feb. 7, City of Kawartha Lakes reported 62 cases of COVID-19 and Northumberland County reported 32 cases. For more information visit www.hkpr.on.ca. /Screenshot from HKPRHU

Further wage increases needed post-training

from page 1

around the growing cost of living, with Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen vocalizing support for keeping the recruit wage at \$20.51, but said further increases would be needed once that recruit finishes their training.

"That's something that might need a little further consideration," she said. "While I don't want to see us do any reductions, there really should be, you know, some reward or compensation for having gone through all that training ... So I would think that needs to be built into these numbers as well."

Danielsen concluded that council would defer the conversation until French had time to consider their comments and adjust the proposal accordingly.

Art requires liability insurance

The Arts Council – Haliburton Highlands has invited the Township of Algonquin Highlands to display a piece of local art inside municipal buildings. However, according to chief administrative officer Angie Bird, there is a concern around liability.

"The general rule is that you can't insure something if you don't own it, is how they phrased it," she explained. A similar initiative was made in 2017, with the insurance company requesting that liability insurance be provided by the work's owner, which proved to be a stumbling block at that time.

"I fully understand the concerns associated with if something did happen to a valuable piece of artwork," remarked Deputy Mayor Danielsen. "But it does seem awfully unfortunate that so many of the decisions we're faced with these days, we can't do some of the small community things that we'd like to do, because we're concerned about liability. It's a shame, it's changed the face of how we do business in small communities."

The rest of council was supportive of Danielsen's sentiment, but ultimately made the decision to consult further with the township's insurance provider on how to best proceed.

Asset management plan sets out to improve local landing

Residents of Lower Fletcher Lake, locally known as Skin Lake, will be receiving a questionnaire about their use of the public boat launch on that lake.

According to a report from Parks, Recreation, and Trails manager Chris Card, the landing is the next identified project in the township's Asset Management Plan, with its condition officially listed as poor.

The landing that exists currently is made of gravel with a retaining wall and cantilevered dock feature. A number of solutions Card presented from other nearby lakes include variations of floating docks.

Once the questionnaires are sent out and their responses gathered, a new design will be created and costed out, with the restoration project to begin pending council approval.

Card said he hoped to present a design for the landing to council, with the information gathering period for questionnaires taking place through February and March.

Maple Lake United Church to close

The congregation of Maple Lake United Church will disband, 120 years after the first congregation met in the then-new building.

On Jan. 30 at the church's annual meeting, members of the church on the corner of Highway 118 and Stanhope Airport Road opted to permanently close the building and disband the congregation.

Back in November, the church council had advised that the church was "in trouble," as the congregation of Maple Lake United Church has over the past few years been small – with fewer than 10 regular members – and the church was struggling to "keep up with the physical and financial demands" of maintenance. While fundraisers had helped to fill the gap between donations from the congregation and the cost to operate the church, the pandemic and subsequent public health restrictions created challenges in hosting events to raise money.

At the church's annual meeting at the end of January, a discussion was held and a decision made between continuing on with much-needed additional support (including increased attendance at church and increases in offering and fundraising); permanently closing the building and amalgamating the congregation with another United Church congregation, possibly Highland Hills United Church, or permanently closing the building and disbanding the congregation encouraging

members and adherents to attend the church of their choice.

A new members and adherents service will be held virtually on Feb. 27 during the Highlands Hills United Church service. Membership for those at Maple Lake United Church will be transferred to Highland Hills United Church unless members prefer a different option.

A small group of trustees will catalogue items in the church, especially those that are dedicated.

"Then thoughtful consideration will be given to the new home for the items," reads a Feb. 7 letter from church council.

"The MLUC trustees are currently exploring options and working with the East Central Ontario Regional Council to finalize matters," the letter explains regarding the land and building.

In Oct. 2016, the former Minden United Church and Zion United Church voted to amalgamate into Highland Hills United Church, while the congregants at Maple Lake United Church voted for it to remain a freestanding church.

"As the snow of winter lays thick around us, the buds of spring lay waiting to rebirth the summer leaves and flowers," reads the letter. "May the members of MLUC be like buds joining other congregations to bring about a spring of hope."

Sue Tiffin, Staff



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IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

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Holding the line

IN A TIME of divisiveness, when sometimes the loudest drown out the quieter moments of positive action, I want to focus on those who have helped my family through an extremely challenging past two years.

Many readers know that with a medically complex child at home, we have been extremely isolated since March 2020. We have sacrificed one salary to have steady 1-on-1 support for our kids, and put on hold a dozen hours a week of essential help we previously had from personal support workers. We have exclusively homeschooled, met with our medical team virtually, worked from home around-the-clock, avoided indoor settings, seen family and friends outdoors and only at a distance except for visits with grandparents many hours away who are able in their retirement to isolate prior to our visit. We've been together a full 700 days as of this week, for those counting. Obviously this is extreme compared to most people you might know, but for us and for many others who you might not see out and about, it is what life has looked like.

We know many other families and immunocompromised people who are also living with such caution and sacrifice, if they can, until their more vulnerable relatives and communities can be vaccinated, especially if they can't achieve vaccine-induced immunity themselves.

In these times, we rely on others to help.

The people here remind us to be grateful for where we live, for meeting us where we are and continuing to make us feel part of this community even when we're not seen in it. Many business owners and our librarians have helped by offering curbside or delivery. Our neighbours have made

holidays special with front yard surprises, sweet mailbox deliveries and hobby farm field trips. Friends have delivered to our door things we couldn't find easily or didn't have time to pick up. Our parents have filled the kids with home baked goods, bonfires, gardening triumphs (or gardening life lessons) and all the memories you'd want to have with your grandparents. This week, our kids – one who can't wear a mask – will be accommodated by a local team with an outdoor COVID-19 vaccination, their second dose to hopefully help prevent a severe outcome if they become infected as the world opens up. Because of people's willingness to understand and support

our needs, a life that can be challenging is made easier.

We know that not everyone has had such support from people consistently going out of their way to understand and help, so we can all do more. We also know that there are many, many more of these stories of people helping each

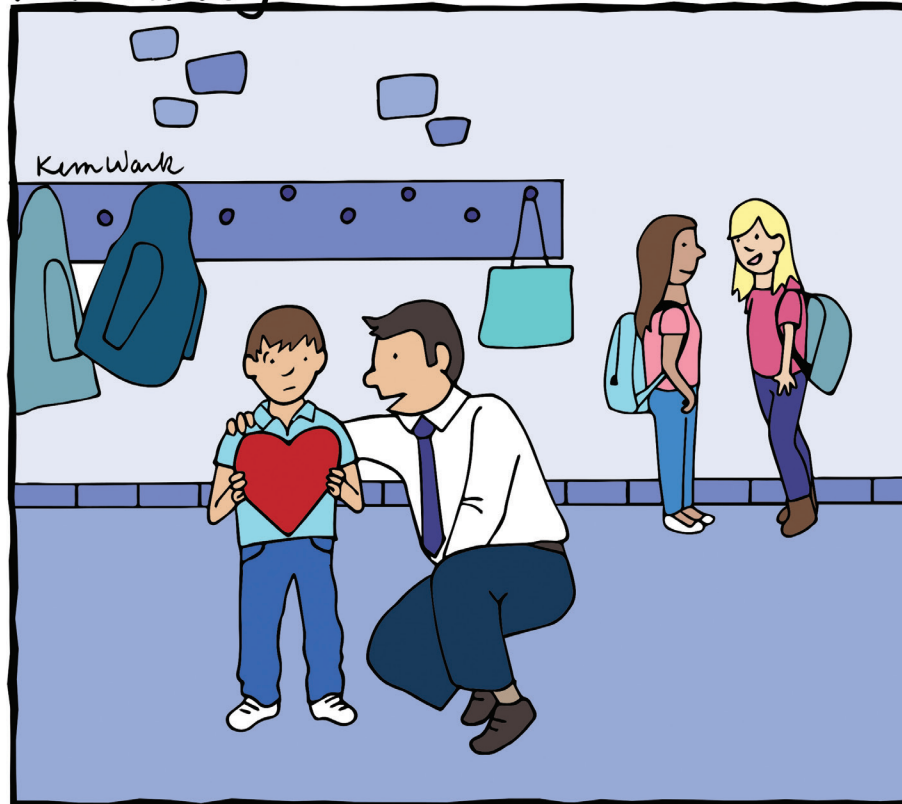
other through a tough time in small ways that make a big difference. They aren't always heard, they're not always loudest, but they're there getting each other through the darkest of times.

On Monday alone, 39,608 doses of COVID-19 vaccine were administered in Ontario, so that almost 90 per cent of Ontarians five and older have had their first dose of vaccine, and almost 85 per cent have had their second dose. That's a lot of people doing what they can to help.

Please continue wearing a mask, staying home if you're sick, get vaccinated if you can, give space and grace for those who need it and do what you can to help others. The only way we can get through this is by doing what we can to help each other.

**SUE TIFFIN**
Editor

Kwarky



"If you acknowledge Valentine's Day as a holiday, you'll be giving gifts your entire life."

Olympic events influenced by the great outdoors

ISPENT THE last few evenings watching the Winter Olympics and each night I walked away from the television feeling more than a little proud. A great deal of that pride is for the wonderful athletes who are representing this country and their great achievements and commendable sportsmanship. But some is also reserved for the outdoorsmen and women of this great land – for I'm quite sure we had a strong influence on many winter Olympic events.

Most people would presume I am talking about the biathlon – the event that requires athletes to ski from location to location and shoot at targets along the way. Well, you'd be wrong. I don't know a single outdoorsman or woman who would ever combine such an intensive cardio workout with shooting. We know the targets aren't going anywhere. So, what's all the rush about?

No, our influence of events is less obvious and frequently falls under the category of happy accidents. By the way, the term happy accident presumes you weren't the one involved in the accident.

Let's begin with the most obvious sport that the outdoors community has influenced – figure skating pairs. No one who looks at this sport with its dizzying spins, exciting eye contact, and airborne leaps can deny that it is just a more sophisticated version of what happens when two ice anglers try to start a power auger whose blade has been frozen and lodged solidly in a partially drilled ice fishing hole. The similarities are undeniable, from the incredibly fast spins as they hold onto the handles for dear life while the power head spins and the auger remains im-

movably lodged, to the dual axels as they finally realize that they must let go. The last time I saw this it was as beautiful site as I've ever seen on ice and, if put to music, would have probably at least earned a bronze.

I also believe that the figure skating routines I watched the other night were too similar to what occurs when two ice anglers without good treads on their boots flail about on glare ice. The only difference was the outfits and the skates – although to be honest, who knows what a person wears beneath their snowmobile suit.

Then, there is the luge run, which as I have stated before, is just a refinement of what happens when an ice angler leaps belly first on a runaway ice fishing sled. And don't tell me the person who invented bobsled-ding didn't come up with the idea after seeing the passenger sled suddenly unhitch from the snowmobile towing it.

Snowboarding? It happens every time an ice angler steps on a piece of cardboard that blew onto the path leading downhill to the lake.

Short track speed skating? That's what happens when an otter comes up the hole into an ice hut.

Of course, I could go on. But the point is that Winter Olympic sports have been heavily influenced by the antics of outdoors enthusiasts just like you and me. And that's not a terrible thing either.

It might, however, be good for our scouts and coaches to know that there is a pool of untapped talent in rural Canada from which they could draw.

Not to brag, but I do a pretty mean Triple Lutz.

**STEVE GALEA**
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

What's up with the weather

IT'S FEBRUARY! Time for happy dancing and thumbing noses at the month just expired.

January was wretched. A coronavirus that would not go away. Threats of war between the U.S. and Russia. Continuing ethnic cleansings and other human tragedies in places like Afghanistan.

Then there was the bizarre weather. Unprecedented winter storms, including tornadoes, in parts of the world. Midwinter forest fires in California and Siberia.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

There were no forest fires here at home. Just cold and snow. Brutal Arctic-style cold.

It was the coldest January in recent memory.

The average high temperature for the month was a chilly minus 6.3. The average low was minus 22.2. The normal January daily high for the Haliburton area is minus 3.8, and the normal low minus 15.9.

Twenty of this past January's 31 days saw lows of minus 20 or colder. On seven of those days county thermometers dived below minus 30. On the morning of January 21 furnaces and wood stoves worked overtime against a low of minus 38.

All those temperatures were recorded by an Environment Canada co-operating private site at Haliburton Village.

The cold seemed to keep heavy snowfalls away. There were no large snowstorms in January and when the month ended there were only 36 centimetres (14 inches) on the ground in most places.

There was no January thaw this year. Usually we see one – a day or two above freezing – in the last half of January.

All this was much different from January last year. The average daytime high temperature in January 2021 was minus 2.7 and the average low for the month minus 12.3 – much warmer than the month just passed.

And in January 2021 there were no days minus 30 or colder and only seven of 30 days in which the thermometer fell to minus 20 or a bit lower. The coldest day in January 2021 was minus 28.

But all that is history. The main interest now is what weather we can expect in coming weeks, and whether we will be treated to an early spring.

Things aren't looking good so far. January's cold continued into early February with signs of some slight warming this week. Most of the morning lows in the first week were in the minus 20 range.

A variety of weather sources are predicting day and night temperatures below freezing for the first three weeks of the month. Nighttime lows are forecast to be in the minus double digits for much of the month.

The Old Farmer's Almanac forecasts more cold followed by snow storms – some of them heavy – for later in the month. That almanac has been around for 230 years and claims an 80 per cent accuracy rate for its weather predictions.

Some people question that percentage, but the almanac was accurate in its forecast for this winter. It predicted the winter of 2021 – 2022 would be “a season of shivers.”

“This coming winter could well be one of the longest and coldest that we've seen in years,” the publication's editor Janice Stillman said last fall.

At any rate, none of the forecasters are predicting spring-like weather for the rest of February. They seem to agree that the first three weeks of this month will see constant below freezing weather, plus snowfalls pretty much every day.

The better news is that most forecasts predict settled, warmer weather in late February and early March. Long-range forecasts for spring and summer see warmer weather with above normal rainfall.

Who knows? Someone once said the most accurate weather forecast is obtained by looking out the window.

And, whatever we get, we get. Despite all our advances in science there is nothing we can do to change the weather, at least in the short term. We can, however, start living in ways that reduce global warming and climate change.

Besides, there really is no bad weather. Sunshine is great, Snow can be pretty and provide fun. Rain is refreshing and wind can be bracing.

Or, as Alfred Wainwright, the famous British walker and author, wrote in one of his books:

“There's no such thing as bad weather, only unsuitable clothing.”

letters to the editor

Big thanks to Canoe FM!

To the Editor,

The Volunteer Dental Outreach for Haliburton County (VDO) would like to express deep gratitude to Canoe FM for once again selecting our charity (among several others) as a recipient of Radio Bingo. This popular fundraiser recently added \$5,000 to our bank account, making it possible for us to continue to meet the dental needs of low-income residents. In 2019, we accepted a \$12,500 contribution from the same initiative.

With the ongoing support of organizations like Canoe FM, our volunteer dental professionals have been able to provide \$3.4 million worth of dentistry over 10 years. It's truly been remarkable to see our community pull together amidst these challenging times in support of multiple worthy causes. Haliburton County is a better place because of your generosity.

Sincerely,
VDO board of directors

Counter-protest by donation

To the Editor and friends in Haliburton County,

I was saddened to see a rally in our county this past Saturday, supporting the occupation in Ottawa. The message that this sends to all the hard working people in healthcare and other essential services (including truckers), who have kept our society going during the biggest challenge of our lifetime is disturbing. On the international scene, it is an embarrassment! My gut instinct was to want to run out and counter-protest, but I felt that this would only create a larger issue and increase the likelihood of conflict in our community.

I understand that people are frustrated. This pandemic is nobody's fault. Both our federal and provincial governments have full intentions of rolling back pandemic restrictions this year. We literally just passed the peak of this wave a few weeks ago, so not all restrictions can be lifted immediately. Different countries are peaking at different times, so won't be on the same timeline for easing restrictions.

How we respond now, in this recovery period, be it with innovation, inclusion, kindness and support or with hatred, anger and divisive tactics, is a reflection of the kind of people we are.

Hate inducing, selfish, aggressive tactics and campaigns of misinformation have no business in our community or our nation. Instead of participating in these protest events and associating our good Canadian flag with shameful mob-like aggression, I truly and sincerely encourage the people of Haliburton County to do something positive instead.

I would like to invite like-minded individuals to join me in our own convoy of healing to uplift our community from the effects of this pandemic and to counteract all the hate and aggression we are seeing right now. Help a neighbour, make a donation to a community organization supporting those who are struggling, thank a healthcare worker or essential worker, leave an extra tip for your server, etc. That is how we heal our community. That is the Haliburton County way.

On Saturday, instead of going to counter-protest and legitimizing this awful behaviour, I made a \$50 donation to the Haliburton County Heat Bank. What positive change can you make? If the organizers of this occupation can raise over \$10,000,000 for hate, what can we raise for hope?

Emmeline Ruttle
Minden Hills

What? They fix potholes?

To the Editor,

Re: Letter to the Editor Feb. 2, regarding road repairs.

After reading the letter from Paul Zalan and the report from the consultants which was similar to their first report in 2018, it comes as no surprise to me that our roads are still neglected.

I am not sure why we the taxpayers have to pay for consultants twice to realize the road issues. As residents of Sandy Bay Road we enjoy a very smooth drive in the winter when the snow

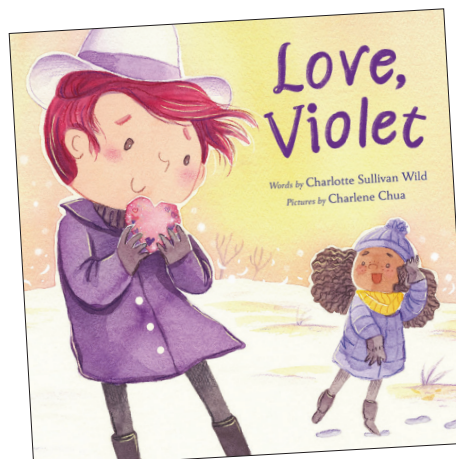
plows fill and pack all the holes on a regular basis with snow. The other three seasons are brutal.

Let's hope this council or the next one takes these reports seriously.

As for Mr. Zalan's concerns about overfilling potholes, it is usually a practice to overfill a little so that traffic packs it down flush. If it were to pack too low it could become a dip and hold water and defeat the purpose of the repair.

Jack Sward
Minden

HCPL's Jr. Book of the Month - February



There's only one person in Violet's class she wants to go on adventures with: Mira, the girl with the cheeriest laugh and who races like the wind. So Violet has made Mira a very special Valentine.

Because Mira is magnificent.

But what if Mira thinks Violet isn't? Violet is afraid that Mira won't want to go on adventures together, and in order to share her feelings, she must overcome her fears – and maybe a snow flurry or two – to tell Mira how she truly feels, and ask her, Want to go on an adventure?

Love, Violet is an adorable, touching, and beautifully illustrated book about friendship, love, and the courage it

takes to share your feelings. The writing and illustrating talents of Charlotte Sullivan Wild and Charlene Chua combine to make this a perfect, charming, and adorable young read for Valentines Day. Check it out from the Haliburton County Public Library

Participants needed for rural eating disorders study



Sara Moret, a student in Sociology at Trent University, is working on a research project about access to services for people with eating disorders in rural communities. /Submitted photo

by **STEPHEN PETRICK**
Special to the Times

If you or a loved one have struggled with an eating disorder while living in a rural community, U-Links would like to hear from you.

The research organization connected to Trent University is looking for people who can share their experiences of accessing treatment or mental health care services to treat their illness.

Interested participants can contact the principal investigator for the project, student Sara Moret. She can be reached at 705-957-7602 or sarahmoret@trentu.ca. The co-investigator and thesis supervisor is Dr. Naomi Nichols, 705-878-7297, naominichols@trentu.ca

Participating in the project is voluntary and those who share their stories will be kept anonymous. The project hopes to address a concern in health care circles; that it's not easy for people in rural communities to access services for eating disorders, such as anorexia or binge eating. There's also a belief that the pandemic has amplified this problem.

"Rural communities do not have a full spectrum of services that address a range of youth mental health issues, especially eating disorders," U-Links said in a media release

to announce the project. "Local families and caregivers often struggle to support the well-being of their children due to inadequate mental health services and treatment options. The struggle is harder when it comes to eating disorders."

The release also states that "since the start of the pandemic, there has been a surge in eating disorder cases, according to Dr. Debra Katzman (from The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto). This surge is also being experienced in the U.S. and Britain. To make things more challenging, the pandemic has made it even more difficult to access services."

The researchers are concerned that, with so many disruptions to health care and school services over the past two years, many people are not being seen and treated in the early stages of their illness.

Also, the prolonged periods of lockdown can lead to relapses or an increase in eating disorder symptoms.

"The Trent University/U-Links research project aims to find out the ways that people in Haliburton County and rural Ontario are currently accessing information and treatment for eating disorders, as well as consulting with families to learn what parents and youth say would improve (or would have improved) their experience with mental health services for eating disorders," the release says.

Participants need to be 18 or older. They will be asked what they did to support themselves or their loved one and what factors may have made it more difficult for them to access services. They'll also be asked how the COVID-19 pandemic may have impacted the situation. The researchers hope to hold focus groups and interviews, via Zoom.

In an interview, U-Links administrator and logistics coordinator Daniela Pagliaro spoke about how important the project is.

U-Links, known fully as U-Links Centre for Community Based Research, is a unique organization as it matches Trent University students with research projects, with the hopes of gaining new insights on how to improve quality of life in rural areas.

There are high hopes for this project, she said, as she praised Moret as a very dedicated undergrad honours thesis student and said Nichols is "a bit of a superstar" in the research world.

Much of the work related to gathering data has been done, she said, but now the team needs to hear from people directly. She said she hopes the project will ultimately answer questions such as, how can eating disorders among people in rural communities be identified more quickly and how can people be matched with specialized practitioners more quickly; a daunting challenge given that many of them work in large cities.

She said the findings of the study will hopefully be available by March 26, when U-Links hosts its annual celebration of research. The event, once an in-person event but now a virtual event, unveils student research projects that have taken place over the year.

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Be seeing you

A female hairy woodpecker takes a good look back at her photographer.



My little chickadee

A black-capped chickadee makes for a picture-perfect photo. / Photos by June Krisko

Arts Council not backing down to COVID-19

by **CHRIS DROST**
Times Staff

The Arts Council ~ Haliburton Highlands is looking forward to the future after facing two very difficult years with the pandemic, which has changed everything.

“In 2020 we questioned, what do we do now? Then, in 2021 we worked on how to make things work in the new normal. This year we are looking to brighter days ahead,” outgoing chair of the Arts Council Kate Butler said.

At this point, Butler said, the Arts Council is looking at ways to support members and to find different approaches for reaching out to them.

“There are lots of local artists and artisans who are looking for new ways to offer what they do,” she explains. One way was through the launch of the Digital Comfort Studio.

“In 2021, we launched a program for our members called the Digital Comfort Studio which was hosted with the assistance of the HCDC,” Arts Council director Chris Lynd said, referring to the Haliburton County Development Corporation.

“Additional funding was also obtained through the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund, which made it possible for the Arts Council to hire co-ordinators, artists and other professionals to present their expertise, advice and feedback to Arts Council members and the arts community through an eight-week program,” Arts Council director Pat Jones said.

“It had become apparent at the beginning of the pandemic that in-person sales were going to be affected negatively and that even without the effect of the pandemic, online sales were becoming the way of the future. Many artists needed assistance with this move, so we hosted a series of online workshops led by experienced artists who had expertise in building an online presence. The topics included creating a successful profile on social media, understanding the ins and outs of e-commerce, the important elements on a website and relationships with consumers.”

Kathy Purc, a literary artist who has lived in the Haliburton Highlands for 30 years, thought the Arts Council might be more for visual artists, than a writer like herself. Since launching her memoirs in the fall of 2020 in a book called, *Stonehouse stories: The Memoir of a Free-Range Kid*, she had to rethink how to promote her work.

“All those thoughts of an in-person book launch and going on the road were can-



Author Kathy Purc, who wrote the *Stonehouse stories: The Memoir of a Free-Range Kid*, appreciated the opportunity to participate in the Digital Comfort Studio workshops offered through the Haliburton Highlands Arts Council. /DARREN LUM Staff

celled.” Prior to getting involved with the Digital Comfort Studio workshops she had little online experience. “I dove right into it and found it was a place I belonged. There were lots of visual artists but we are all storytellers,” Purc said. She completed the entire session and learned a lot from a variety of facilitators and other artists. She describes it as a very intensive program where she learned about everything from branding, logos, use of colour, and the different social media platforms.

“There was lots of homework, but it was perfect for the time, and I love learning. It helped me make connections and gave me confidence. I am looking forward to learning more about podcasting this spring.”

Following the Digital Comfort Studio pro-

gram, the Digital Comfort Café was designed as an extension. A series of four individual workshops were offered covering Instagram, using IG analytics, platform, social media and more.

If that were not enough, the Arts Council also became a member of the online shopping platform called ShopCloseBuy, a growing e-commerce site created by Technicalities Plus of Haliburton.

“Through the Arts Council ShopCloseBuy account we promote the work of our members who sign on with us for this free service. Members can display their products and events, and direct buyers to their own website for sales,” Lynd explains.

The AC Literary Arts Committee, Haliburton Reads and Writes, has focused

on virtual events and has initiated a program called “6-Minute Escape,” which can be viewed any time on the Arts Council YouTube channel. These compilations of short videos are entertaining and inspiring. The most recent one was produced in partnership with the Halls Island Artist Residency, featuring the artists from the 2021 summer residency.

The Arts Council, in partnership with Canoe FM, continues to offer the weekly radio program The Story Circle in which local writers read short stories or poetry.

The Arts Council is currently working on three projects for 2022, which will provide work opportunities, sales and promotion to our members, and will engage with the community at large.

“These plans will be adapted depending on the state of the pandemic over the next few months, but we continue to move forward with optimism,” Lynd said.

The first is a Community Workshop Project which will bring a number of workshops to community members of all ages, delivered by Arts Council artists and artisans. This project is expected this spring when artists can meet face-to-face and learn some new techniques and enjoy the company of others.

Next is a County Arts Trail through the summer and autumn, which will place the art and crafts of Arts Council members in selected locations across Haliburton County. A map will lead visitors to view the work in interesting venues and provide contact information for each artist.

And last, the Haliburton Reads and Writes committee is planning an event which is tentatively being called “Bookapaloosa” in the fall, which will include a trade show for all things literary, workshops, book readings and presentations by known authors. There will be something for readers and writers of all ages.

“We have done a lot to pivot, to pivot, to pivot. We keep learning as we go and anticipate that 2022 will bring better things ahead and are actually feeling optimistic,” Butler said. She adds that they have a fantastic board that works well together and members are always willing to take on projects.

The Arts Council recently held its annual general meeting where Scott Walling was elected as the new chair. The transition has already begun for this change in leadership. Further information on the Arts Council and its programs is available at www.haliburton-arts.on.ca.

Drawn to drawing in landscape

This winter the Agnes Jamieson Gallery presents an exhibition by Alex Jack, “Drawing in Landscape”. Offering work done in different mediums, from watercolour to pencils, pens and chalk pastels, Jack displays a remarkable collection based on Canadian landscape.

Jack is drawing on 40 years of practicing visual arts and, in some ways, this exhibition is a retrospective. He is drawn to landscape and continually makes trips to his favourite rural places, mostly to see how the land has changed. Artists that work en plein air will tell you that the land is never the same twice. Being out in the landscape, versus the studio, allows for a clearer and closer look at details that have subtly altered. Sun location, new growth, wild life, season – so much causes the canvas to be something different each time. This is the quintessential hook that causes Jack to make his way outdoors to capture anew what it has to offer.

For Jack, drawing is the core foundation of his art, having learned the more traditional and representational methods. He has stayed with this style all through his career, stating it is a better way to understand the visual language being less symbolic. To him, learning these fundamentals is like learning basic grammar for writing or theory chords for music. Literally the alphabet of visual arts.

His work, “Edge of the Ice,” could be seen as symbolic, certainly abstract, but it is an actual visual seen in nature. The stark contrast in white snow/ice to black water is something we regularly see.

Most of his work is a simplification of the landscape to shape and line, allowing the media to do what it has to offer. Shapes



Shoreline and Reflection, Afternoon by Alex Jack, 2012, ink and chalk, 6 x 8.



Forest and Pond by Alex Jack, 2003, chalk and pencil, 13 x 16.

and colours blending with soft pastels. Solid, strong lines created with pencils. Sections in melded watercolour. His work can be compared to David Milne who also captured the landscape in the same area of Ontario.

Oddly, landscape is not a topic often shown in galleries. Jack believes this is due to it not representing people, or perhaps it has been overdone and not exciting. One would think the theme would always be welcomed considering that the iconic identity the Group of Seven gave Canada was mostly in the style of landscape art. This does not deter Jack, however. Nor does the low income an artist has in

Canada. For him, he is willing to sacrifice his lifestyle for his art. He mentions that he weighs out a purchase of something to that of art supplies and paper. Living in his means can be a challenge, but Jack sees it is a form of freedom – he is doing what he loves.

In the 1990s when he sold his place in Toronto and moved to an area near Kingston, most thought it unusual. When asked what people think of it today, he says most are envious. And indeed, many are moving their way out of the city. To have a large studio space at fractions of the cost is what Jack saw early on and has not looked back. To add to this, Jack has not embraced the social media madness. As cited by more and more artists, the internet is taking up too much of their time and reducing their creativity.

There are many comparisons between Jack and André Lapine. Lapine is the prominent artist of the Agnes Jamieson Gallery permanent collection. His work was primarily landscape but he was acknowledged to be the best illustrator of horses. For Lapine, drawing was the base requirement for an artist and being outdoors sketching was his joy. Born

in 1866, Lapine’s training was based purely in representational. He was originally taught in a strict Russian style, learned the new styles in France and fine-tuned his ability in Holland. He then was an important influence in the development of Canadian art.

He was quoted to say “if you cannot draw, what is the use in painting?”

Lapine also felt that revolution was important but who wants to always live with it. Perhaps not directly related to Jack’s ideology, but the relatability of both these artists’ work has people continually admiring it through the test of time.

A selection of Lapine’s work will be on display during this exhibition.

“Drawn in Landscape” is exhibiting until April 2, 2022. The gallery is located at 176 Bobcaygeon Road in the town of Minden and is admission by donation. For more information about the gallery visit mindenhillsculturalcentre.blog

Submitted by
Agnes Jamieson Gallery Curator



WWW.HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA

Tickets are now available for purchase 45 minutes prior to puck drop at the door.



February 11 @ 7:30 p.m.
vs Toronto Patriots





February 15 @ 7:30 p.m.
vs Caledon Admirals





February 19 @ 4:30 p.m.
vs Wellington Dukes



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Draw will take place on Feb 22, 2022 *Moving the Highlands* TEAM

Reporter slides into car control school experience

by ALEX GALLACHER
Special to the Times

Every racing fan grows up wishing they could race in the big leagues. NASCAR, F1 and the IndyCar Series are the essence of speed and grace. However, what does a person do if they don't have

\$5 million just laying around for a NASCAR set? Well they improvise, and the Minden Ice Races are a perfect gateway into the sport.

Before you ever take to the ice though, it's important to learn how to drive on it. Now a lot of people might think they are a pro, given that millions of people across North America drive during the winter season each year. Driving in the ice and snow is one thing, but being in control of your car is something else entirely.

Enter Ian Law's Car Control School, the group dedicated to getting all drivers prepared to drive on the ice. I was given the chance to sit in on Ian's Feb. 6 class.

Getting into class, the instructor talks about the fundamentals of winter driving. Things like being aware of your surroundings, observing potential black ice spots, but the most important thing is that no trip is worth dying over. If the weather is too bad, don't go.

They taught everything from new steering techniques to how to check blind spots. While most of the people in the room were fresh faced 16-year-olds, as a 24-year-old who had been driving since 2014, I learned so many things to make me realize how much I really didn't know.

Around noon, Ian, myself and Ian's trainee - and my co-worker at the Canadian Touring Car Championship - John Trimble, all headed out to the driving course. The course consisted of a slalom, a hard-braking zone, a U-turn and an avoidance challenge. I joined John and Ian for a few test runs, before I got into my own car to run the course myself.

With John as my instructor, I drove the course a few times over. My main takeaways were keeping the car controlled during the slalom, but keeping both hands on the wheel at all times. Using Ian's technique, which can be boiled down to keeping your hands at "9 and 3" and letting whichever hand isn't dominant slide down the wheel until it hits a pre-determined point during the turn, I was able to complete the slalom without hitting anything.

Moving on to the hard-braking zone, the section is designed to show you just how much you can slide in icy conditions. I was asked to approach the zone as fast as I reasonably could, but slamming on the brakes and watching the car slide. I hit the zone going about 60, and I still slid right past the cones.

The final aspect is the obstacle avoidance,



Reporter Alex Gallacher was given the chance to sit in on Ian Law's Car Control School on Feb. 6, trying a course that included slalom, a hard-braking zone, a U-turn and an avoidance challenge./Photo submitted

this test has you running down a straight line until John told me to brake and steer into either the left or right lane. This test gets your blood pumping as you don't have much time to react. I think this is one of the most important tests and despite having this knowledge myself, most others on the road don't think they need it. It doesn't matter if you've been driving for 40 minutes or 40 years, we live in the frozen tundra of Canada. It's cold, it's icy and dangerous if you aren't prepared on the road.

Due to Ian's car racing background, he took me out in the drift car to show me how to control a car in the extreme during a slide. Ian blew my mind. He drifted that car with the precision of a surgeon removing a brain tumor and naturally after he gave me a drift I wanted to try myself. I can safely say, it wasn't as easy as it looked. Video games like Forza Horizon 5 and Need For Speed Heat make it look so easy, and I can safely say after my 20 or so attempts I nailed two successful drifts. The hardest part is looking where you want the car to go and applying the right amount of gas at the right time to keep the car in a slide and not spin out.

Let's just say I need a little more practice. As someone who is familiar with the drifting scene at Shannonville Motorsport Park, drifting is a blast and something that can come in

handy on the road. While I'm not suggesting you go out right now and lay down a drift on the 400, learning to keep control of your car and not spin out is a key to winter driving if you are ever in a slide.

For those interested in taking Ian's course, you can head to carcontrolschool.com and book a location and date. Ian can train those 16 and older. I highly recommend all ages take this course.



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Get your motor running

Ice racers at the Minden fairgrounds made good use of the Minden Kin Club-prepared track last weekend, the first of the Canadian Automobile Sport Club 2022 series. /Photos by SUE TIFFIN Staff



James and Duncan Craig, from Mississauga, were all smiles despite some mechanical problems for the father-son team to deal with after a qualifying race on Feb. 5. This marked their second year of racing.



Visitors from around the region watched the races from behind - or in - the snowbanks around the track.



Feb. 6 was a grey day but that didn't stop racers and spectators from coming out in good spirits.



Amelia and Victoria Sulley, from Toronto, take in the races and some lunch on Feb. 6. Their dad noted the butter tart from the food booth was the best he'd ever had.



Cars lined up at the ready on Feb. 5.



Beauregard the dog had a lazy morning napping before heading to the races on Feb. 5 for some love from racers and spectators.



The Peterborough Motor Sports Club, some members seen here on Feb. 5, had more than 70 racers in the first race of the series.



The races began last weekend, for the five-week series that will run until March 5 and 6, or March 12 and 13 if a rain date is needed.



While Feb. 5 wasn't the greatest of days for Jim Carrell, he got a full race in on Feb. 6 "so he's quite happy now," said wife, Sheila.



A team effort from kids and adults alike got this racer up and ready to go.

Team Ferris members Connor Duhaime, center, with teammates Zach Shurtleff, left, and Ian Dickie, right compete together. This team, which includes skip Pat Ferris, not pictured, will be competing in the Ontario Men's Tankard from Feb 9 to 13 in Port Elgin. Team Ferris earned its berth to the Tankard with the Trillium Tour Series qualifier. /Submitted



Duhaime throws rocks among curling giants

Sudoku brought to you by

by NICK BERNARD
Times Staff

Following a shot at the Olympics and months away from the ice, former Haliburton Highlands Secondary School curling champion Connor Duhaime is back on the rink. Duhaime and the rest of Team Ferris will be at the 2022 Ontario Tankard at the Plex in Port Elgin from Feb 9 to 13.

Team Ferris is one of twelve other teams vying for Ontario's top curling championship. The winning team will serve as Ontario's representative at the Briers, the Canadian championship.

Duhaime is a lifelong curler, starting out in the Timbits program before going on to play successfully throughout high school with his brother Owen and fellow curlers Curtis Nichol and Jessie Walker.

"We've just kind of been doing it forever, so it's sort of a part of our DNA," he said as he reflected on his career so far. His wife, Chantal, is also a curler. "It's kind of fun, you compete with ... a lot of the same people over the years, even from way back in juniors and stuff ... It's obviously competitive at this stage, but it's social too. A lot of our friends have come out of the curling circles."

The Tankard will be the first time Team Ferris has been able to play together since the pandemic restrictions at the start of the year. Duhaime says that while he's been able to train at home, he doesn't expect anyone to have the advantage as they return to the rink.

"Curling is a pretty unique sport, so it's hard to train specifically for it other than just doing it," he said, describing the routine he maintained for himself while restrictions were in place, and how it factored into his preparation for the event. "The good thing is everybody else is in ... the same boat as us. I imagine there'll be a little bit of rust the first couple of games, and then people settle in."

This will also be the end of a lengthy break for the Tankard itself, as it was cancelled in 2021 due to COVID-19.

Duhaime takes Team Ferris's second position, with Ian Dickie as third, Zach Shurtleff as lead, and Pat Ferris as the skip. Duhaime says staying in touch with the team through the restrictions has allowed them to maintain their team cohesion.

"We kind of live scattered across," he said, listing off places like Guelph and Burlington. Duhaime himself lives in Barrie. "We chat often and kinda keep in touch with what's going on. We're sort of in planning mode now for the event, so we'll have limited practice, but we can have some good team plans and strategy before going into it."

Often, large curling events are hosted in hockey arenas that are converted into curling surfaces, but with events like the Tankard, Duhaime said the surfaces are well-treated, ideal for formulating those strategies ahead of time.

"Going into these [events], we know we're going to have awesome conditions," he said. "So we can kind of plan ahead. Like, on this super ice, this is the game style that works for us ... I think we can come in Game One knowing what we need to do."

Other teams playing alongside Duhaime and Team Ferris include teams led by some of curling's biggest names, including John Epping, Tanner Horgan, and Glenn Howard.

The 2022 Ontario Tankard will be streamed live at CurlONTV.ca

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	7	1						
6	8		4			9	7	
		2	1					
			2		6			
	4	6						
2			7	5			3	
3				8		1		
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					3	6		

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 16

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Huskies shutout in first home game since shutdown

by ALEX GALLACHER
Special to the Times

Following a red hot performance by Wellington Dukes goalie Ethan Morrow, the Huskies were left seeing red after suffering a 3-0 shutout loss Saturday, on Feb. 5 at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena. This was the team's first home game after the Ontario Junior Hockey League (OJHL) postponed their season for close to a month (and 125 games) due to the province's return to the modified version of Step Two of the Roadmap to Reopen, which started on Jan. 5 and ended Jan. 21.

The first period saw neither team score, but the two Huskies powerplays saw the blue and white pepper Morrow with shot after shot. However, their efforts went in vain. With the teams heading back to the locker rooms at the first period intermission tied, they came out swinging in the second.

After Huskies forward Payton Schaly took a tripping call early in the period, the Dukes managed to break through and end the deadlock. Dukes player David Campbell set the table with a pass to the point, where Graham Dickerson's wrist shot found its way through traffic past Huskies goalie Christian Cicigoi. Just like that, it was 1-0.

After the goal, Haliburton County found themselves with three consecutive penalties, including one five on three opportunity for the Dukes. The Huskies special teams were exhausted at the end of the second. Despite the dominance in puck control from the Dukes, the Huskies kept the deficit to one.

Wellington took two separate penalties in the first seven minutes of the third, and the only sentiment that sentiment that that up is missed opportunities for the home team. The Huskies threw everything they had at Dukes goalie Morrow. Huskies players Schaly, Nick Athanasakos, Nate Porter, and Oliver Tarr all had come close to scoring, but all came up short.

The Dukes doubled their lead at 12:26 in the final frame.

After an errant pass ended up on the stick of Dukes player Corbin Roach, the speedy forward kicked in the jets and headed down the ice. Spinning around and beating Cicigoi, the Dukes now doubled their lead 2-0 despite the Huskies maintaining puck possession and offensive pressure.

The deal was sealed following Dickerson's second of the night, with an empty netter. Despite out shooting the Dukes 36-16, the Huskies were unable to beat Morrow who stood tall like a brick wall. After a narrow 4-3 overtime win Friday night against the



Haliburton County Huskies forward Payton Schaly gets his shot off against Wellington Dukes goalie Ethan Morrow in Ontario Junior Hockey League action on Saturday, Feb. 6 at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden. The Huskies lost 3-0./DARREN LUM Staff

Muskies in Lindsay, the Huskies' luck ran out as they fell 3-0 to the Dukes on home ice.

"I thought we played really well despite not getting the outcome we wanted," Huskies head coach Ryan Ramsay said. "In the first period we dominated, but the second period killed us with three penalties in a row and we lost our swagger. You're gonna have those games where you think you play good enough to win. It didn't go our way, but for the most part I thought we played well."

The Huskies will head out to Toronto for a rematch with the Jr. Canadiens before heading back to the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena on Friday, Feb. 11 for their final home meeting with the Toronto Patriots. The Huskies beat the Patriots 4-3 in their last meeting during the 2021 OJHL Governor's Showcase. The puck drop is at 7:30 p.m.

Haliburton County Huskies forward Cameron Kosurko backchecks, marking Wellington Dukes defender Liam Whittaker



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GENERATIONS

Learning from one another

The infant children at Compass ELC Minden love to be engaged with one another.

We have noticed both indoors and outdoors, with various materials, during play and while eating, the children are very social and interested in what the others are doing.

One afternoon, the children noticed that there was a new basket of various sized mirrored rings on the shelf as they woke from sleep time. What began with one curious child exploring a new material, quickly turned into a community of learners as each child joined in. The first child that woke noticed them right away and immediately went to investigate. They picked up one of the larger ones and held it to their face and smiled at their reflection, then up at me. A moment later one of the other children joined in, noticing the other

child, now gazing at themselves in different sized rings. They looked at themselves too, smiled, and then picked up another. They started banging them together and exclaimed with glee.

The other child observed with great interest and then started banging their rings together too. Another child came to join and right away one of the children passed them a ring to play with. They held their ring up to their face with both hands, then looked through it. The children smiled at one another and began exploring the room, looking at their reflections in different spaces.

While exploring, one of the children picked out a book and brought it to an educator to read. Right away the others noticed and left their rings behind, each grabbing a book and bringing it over too, ready to join in for story time.

It is so interesting to observe the way the children learn from one another. I was especially interested in the way that the children copied the actions of others in their own play, included each other and smoothly transitioned in play by following their peers' lead. Watching this experience I can tell that the children are confident to explore new materials, and are instantly curious when they see another child playing with something. I can't wait to see their skills keep growing!

Amanda Clement RECE
Pedagogical and Culture Lead
Compass ELC Minden



What began with one curious child exploring a new material, quickly turned into a community of learners as each child joined in. Here, AJ holds her treasures.



We have noticed both indoors and outdoors, with various materials, during play and while eating, the children are very social and interested in what the others are doing. Theo shares a smile during tummy time.



While exploring, one of the children picked out a book and brought it to an educator to read.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

5	7	1	3	6	9	4	8	2
6	8	3	4	2	5	9	7	1
4	9	2	1	7	8	3	6	5
8	3	5	2	9	6	7	1	4
7	4	6	8	3	1	5	2	9
2	1	9	7	5	4	8	3	6
3	5	4	6	8	2	1	9	7
9	6	8	5	1	7	2	4	3
1	2	7	9	4	3	6	5	8

HISTORY IN THE HIGHLANDS

Do you remember the 1918 flu pandemic?

IT'S BECOME A distant memory, possibly remembered by local residents as the cause of death of one of their ancestors.

The pandemic of 1918/1919 killed at least 20 million people worldwide, including an estimated 50,000 Canadians. As the First World War ended in the autumn of 1918, the viral infection, referred to then as Spanish influenza, was spread through Canada in part by soldiers returning from overseas.

Like today with our efforts to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus, many local governments shut down non-essential services. Quarantines were imposed, and people were required to wear protective masks in public places. The lessons learned led to the formation of the federal Department of Health in 1919.

Over 30 Haliburton County residents died by mid-January

1919 before the pandemic started to subside. Were people here less mobile and therefore less likely to transmit the virus as winter progressed? From February to July 1919, only six people died.

Haliburton seemed to avoid the spring 1919 wave that occurred in the more populated areas of Canada, and a review of the local death registrations for the rest of 1919 shows that no one died of pneumonia in



ADELE ESPINA

History in the Highlands

Haliburton County after July.

In the book "The Great Influenza" by John M. Barry, this quote describes what happened in Haliburton County, where only seven people over the age of 60 died: "...young adults had died at extraordinary, and frightening rates. The elderly, normally the group most susceptible to influenza, not only survived attacks of the disease but were attacked far less often. This resistance of the elderly was a worldwide phenomenon. The most likely explanation is that an earlier pandemic, so mild as to not attract attention, resembled the 1918 virus closely enough that it provided protection."

Here in Haliburton County, the first to die was 38-year-old Mrs. **Alice Mumford** of Cardiff Township. She had suffered from Spanish influenza and pneumonia for one week and passed away on Oct. 25. She and her husband had five sons ranging in age from nine to 20.

During the next two weeks, the deaths became an almost daily occurrence. On Nov. 2, eight-year-old **Nelson Cleveland Barnum** of West Guilford succumbed after six days to Spanish influenza and pneumonia. He was the son of Henry Barnum and Mary Elizabeth Henderson.

On Nov. 3, 30-year-old Mrs. **Olive Emily Thomas** of Dysart Township died. Dr. E.S. Baker reported that he presumed the cause of death was influenza but he was not present at the time. She and her husband Frank Thomas had three small children.

On Nov. 4, 76-year-old **Eliza Jane Sawyer** died in West Guilford four days after contracting influenza.

The next day, 20-year-old **Vera Watson** died in Cardiff Township. She was the third of seven children of William Watson and Annie Allen of Highland Grove.

John Anderson of Paudash in southern Cardiff Township died on Nov. 6. He was 60 years old and left a wife, Ida, and four children.

On Nov. 7, Haliburton village lost its local doctor **Dr. Edward Kennedy Henderson** to the Spanish flu.

That same day, toddler **Lola Evelyn Pritchard** of Lot 1, Con 9, Minden Township died of Spanish Influenza at the age of 13 months. She was the only child of newlyweds Lawrence Pritchard and Elsie Coulter.

On Nov. 9, 17-year-old **Ella Bella Sherman** of Snowdon Township died of the complications of influenza. She was one of eight children of John Sherman and Margaret Johnson.

Also on Nov. 9, 32-year-old **Frederick Warren** died in Snowdon Township as well. He was born in London, England and met and married Gertrude Hamilton of South Lake in Toronto in 1913.

Corbin Maxfield Lake, the 23-year-old son of Gooderham merchant Chester Lake and Hattie Simmons died on Nov. 10.

On Nov. 11, Armistice Day, 31-year-old **Edith Watt** died in Cardiff. Her widowed husband William was left with nine children ranging in age from four months old to 14 years old.



John Alder Padfield died on Nov. 14 in Haliburton village. He was an unmarried cook from England. The doctor who had cared for him was Dr. Quinn from Toronto who had arrived to treat Dr. Henderson, who died a week earlier.

The next day, 17-year-old **Elsie May Barry** died in Lutterworth Township. She was the daughter of William Barry and Mary Helena Lough.

Also on Nov. 15, 35-year-old **Herbert Thayer** died in Haliburton village. He was an unmarried mill hand, the son of Stephen Thayer and Annie Short.

Around this time, Arthur Batchelor, the town clerk, noted on another death registration that Dr. Baker was overworked dealing with the number of influenza cases.

Joseph Harrison, 27-year-old unmarried son of James and Mary Harrison, died on Nov. 20 after suffering from influenza for two weeks.

On Dec. 8, 15-year-old **Emma Blanche Madill** died of influenza complicated by pneumonia. She was the daughter of Thomas Madill and Emma Casley of Gooderham and was the third youngest of their twelve children.

Edward, the infant son of Roderick **Cameron** and Margaret Brohm died of pneumonia on Dec. 18. They lived at Miner's Bay.

Elizabeth Austen of Brady Lake also died on Dec. 18 at age 70. Her death registration states that she had Spanish Influenza for ten days.

Evelyn Augusta Monroe died as well on Dec. 18 at age 33 in Glamorgan Township. She was a daughter of Amos Clark and Mary Jane Blake. She had married Charles Sylvester Monroe in 1912. Charles had just served in the 109th Victoria and Haliburton Battalion in the First World War. According to his military file, part of his War Service Gratuity was held in trust to pay for Evelyn's funeral expenses.

On Christmas Day, 28-year-old **Joseph Brohm** died after a 12-day bout of influenza and pneumonia, leaving his wife Mary Jane with three small children.

Emma Selena Gibbs, 18 years old, was the final Haliburton County resident to pass away in 1918. The oldest daughter of Dunn Gibbs and his first wife Ellen Isabella Sisson, she died in Stanhope on Dec. 30 of pneumonia, complicated by septicaemia and toxemia.

Sarah Jane Cox of Deer Lake was the wife of Jeremiah Cox. Sarah Jane died on Jan. 1, 1919, age 51, after a 10-day bout of bronchopneumonia.

Velma Davidson, 18 months old, died on Jan. 4. Dr. E.S. Baker recorded on her death record that the cause was "Influenza presumably" but that he did not attend the child before death. Velma was the second youngest of the 10 children of David Davidson and Catherine Morrison of Minden Township.

Charlotte Hicks was the daughter of Robert McKnight and Dorothy Little. She and her husband Charles Hicks lived east of Ingoldsby. She died on January 6 at the age of 42, leaving her husband and four sons and one daughter.

George **Howe** and his wife Sarah Jane Newell lived on the Gelert Road near Ingoldsby Road. In Jan. 1919, two of their children died of influenza and pneumonia – seven-year-old

Lee on Jan. 5 after an illness of seven days, then 14-year-old **Darrel** on Jan. 15 after suffering for two weeks.

Olive Hogg was the younger of two daughters of John Hogg and Isabel Gilbert. They lived just south of Lochlin on the Ritchie Falls Road. She was eight years old when she died on Jan. 8 of pneumonia.

Henry Minaker died on Jan. 11 at Lot 23, Con 13, Snowdon Township. He was 85 years old. His unmarried son **James**, age 49, died in Lochlin on Feb. 14, according to his probate file. No death registration has been found, so it is not known if James succumbed to influenza or pneumonia as well.

Dora Louisa Geeza was the daughter of Frederick Geeza and Martha Matilda Clark of Snowdon. Dora was unmarried when she died of pneumonia at the age of 29 on January 12.

Sarah Ann Fielding was the daughter of the Rev. Frederick Burt and Eliza Ann Whittle. She was married to William Fielding. The Fieldings were well established in Minden village. William served as police magistrate, crown land agent and justice of the peace, and as reeve from 1893 to 1895. They were also known for the large geometric garden beside their home on Water Street. Sarah died on Jan. 12 after suffering from Spanish Influenza for two weeks and pneumonia for one week.

Samuel Scheffee was 45 years old when he died at Lot 3, Con 7 Minden, leaving his 34-year-old wife Ethel Ellen Hughes with three small children. He had the Spanish Flu for two weeks and had also suffered from influenza insanity for one week.

Eva Mitchell was the daughter of John Mitchell and Eliza Roseborough of Highlands East. She married William Hillis and they had seven children. She died on Feb. 24 in Monmouth Township at the age of 35, after suffering with bronchopneumonia for two weeks.

Mary Pearl and her husband Henry were described on various census records as African or of black-white parentage. They left the United States and first settled in the Brantford area of Ontario around 1871, then made their way north to Haliburton County. They lived in Stanhope Township before moving in 1909 to Lot 2, Con A Minden on a land parcel that became known as Pearl's Hill. Mary Pearl died on March 20, age 80, of pneumonia.

As is apparent, the local influenza death toll was humbling. This historical rash of deaths in Haliburton County has not been repeated during this COVID-19 pandemic.

However, in the Oct. 1992 Canadian Bulletin of Medical History, Katherine Arnup wrote: "...pro-vaccination forces are the victims of their own success. By keeping contagious diseases under control through immunization schemes, they reduce the public perception of continued vigilance against diseases..."

Our collective efforts to vaccinate and to follow modern prescribed public health measures have saved us from the fate of many of our ancestors.

(Condensed and adapted from articles by the writer in 2021 Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group newsletters)

AROUND THE COUNTY TOWN



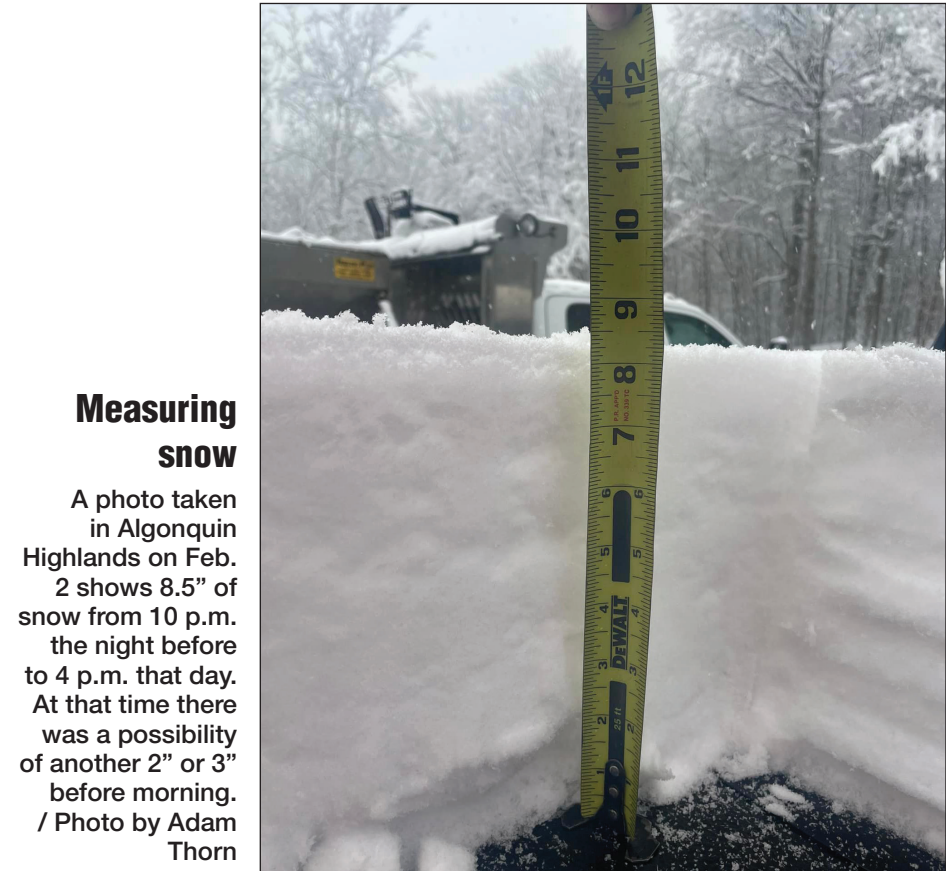
Works of snow art

Eight-year-old Mason took a day off from online schooling to fully enjoy a snow day in Algonquin Highlands. (Mom made the snow dog next to him). /Photo submitted



Teens taking time

Liv Johnson, Maya Johnson and Aryah Sullivan used their PA Day time off from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School to help Gramma and Grampa Burke (Joann and Tom) get shovelled out. /Photo submitted by Christina Allore



Measuring snow

A photo taken in Algonquin Highlands on Feb. 2 shows 8.5" of snow from 10 p.m. the night before to 4 p.m. that day. At that time there was a possibility of another 2" or 3" before morning. / Photo by Adam Thorn

How to enjoy too much snow

Yes, it does happen at times and this winter is yet another of those times. A foot-deep snowfall on ponds and wetlands can be very frustrating for skiers and snowshoers who enjoy being out in the sunshine where the trees don't grow. Just like we had last week. Even though we had plenty of really cold January nights, the ice covering so many of our lakes, ponds and wetlands was not thick enough to stop slush from forming under all that beautiful new snow. The weight of the new snow has to be just enough for water to seep in on top of the ice. The extra weight of this water will be just enough to allow more water to get in and form more slush. So when you look behind you, your snowshoe tracks will show the white snow changing to dull grey. The best advice is to get back on dry ground.

My descriptions of several additions to some of our regular marked snowshoe trails have been written to encourage snowshoers

to add more open areas as so many of these trails are enclosed in trees. This latest snowfall has covered these trees truly wonderfully with the added fun of avoiding the dumping of snow off overhanging branches onto heads and shoulders. The price to be paid for this extra thrill is to be more careful about what is underneath the snow.

The present forecasts do not tell of rainstorms on the way here, but a few days of light rain followed by return to cold could bring much easier snowshoe travel when the late winter sunshine encourages us to get back out again. This can be the most exciting exploring of the winter!

Submitted by Peter Brogden

Have some thoughts on how to do something that you want to share with readers? Send your 200-word pieces to sue@haliburtonpress.com.



Local landmark of the month

Maple in the Park is found at the Lochlin Community Centre in Minden Hills. An homage to the time-honoured tradition of maple syrup production, this soaring, rusted steel sculpture is tucked in between spruce trees and rewards anyone that stops to take a few minutes to investigate. Created by David Hollows, Maple in the Park is part of the Visual Arts Committee project to put an outdoor art piece in every community in the Haliburton Highlands. It is a great stop on a socially distanced walk or bicycle ride on the Haliburton County Rail Trail. By bike, it is only a few minutes from Ritchie Falls. This is part of a Local Landmark series brought to you by the Haliburton Highlands tourism team. Follow Haliburton Highlands on Instagram or Facebook to see the weekly features from throughout the county.

To see your loved ones on this page, send photos to sue@haliburtonpress.com

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Minden Animal Hospital continues to accept new clients and thus needs more team members!!

We are looking for a FT and/or PT **Registered Veterinary Technician,** or recent graduate. If you have a positive attitude, are team oriented and can provide not only top notch patient care but also a great customer experience this position is for you.

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Please submit your resume and cover letter by **3:00 p.m. on Friday, February 25, 2022** to:

Dawn Mugford-Guay
Human Resources Coordinator
Township of Algonquin Highlands
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Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca

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These are unionized CUPE positions. Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for detailed postings and job descriptions.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than Friday February 25th, 2022 at 12:00pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

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Madeline Marion Peacock
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Passed away peacefully at Highland Wood LTC, Haliburton on Monday, January 31, 2022.

She is predeceased by her husband Bill (2014). Mother of Marilyn Wagg (Doug) and Murray (Diane-deceased). Grandmother of Steven Wagg (Patricia), Ron Wagg (Kelly), Michael Peacock (Natalie), Aaron Peacock, Jordan Peacock (Madeline) and great grandmother of Kaela, Lucas, Bronwyn, Adele, Melissa Wagg and Garrett, Eli, Brayden, Callie and Thomas Peacock. Predeceased by her siblings Scott, Emmy, Iva, Andy, Mildred, Ira and Margerite.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a Graveside Committal Service and Interment will be held at the Glamorgan Cemetery, Gooderham in the Spring.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



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LOOK INSIDE



A play is born

Michael Fay's *Never Such Innocence Again* hits the stage next week.

See page 21



Powerhouse

The HHSS curling team, with three players from Minden, is one to watch.

See page 17



A tribute

Pauline Johnson remembers Dick Thompson, the man with a constant smile.

See page 4



Legion donation

Once again the Kinmount Legion is helping the Kinmount medical centre.

See page 2

In Quotes

It's a great way to meet people and contribute to community values at the same time.

Minden Rotary President Bill Obee, encouraging people to join the club.

Should schools get security cameras?

by SHERYL LOUCKS
Times Staff

Security cameras may be appearing in elementary schools if Trillium Lakelands District School Board's application to the Ministry of Education for funding is successful.

Jim Bradley, superintendent of business, says \$4,000 per school is available for such things as a video surveillance system for the front door or a window in the main office to allow a clear view of the main door.

The application deadline is

March 4. Bradley says 11 schools in the board meet the criteria.

A motion, moved by Haliburton County's trustee Valerie Smith, was passed to pursue the grant with the proviso parent councils be consulted before the grant is used.

She says that from her past experience as a school secretary any device to assist the front staff watch the entrance is a boon. Some parents have also asked to have all the doors but the front door locked so she argued par-

see TRUSTEES page 2



Fun times snowball in Dorset

There's nothing like falling snow to get revellers in the mood for Dorset Snowball, the much anticipated winter carnival that attracts thousands of people to the northern village. There were wagon rides, a colourful parade, games and lots of good food.

Happy 100th anniversary, Rotary

Minden members play proud role in club's history

by JEANNE ANTHON
Special to The Times

One of the biggest birthday parties in the world was held this week. In more than 165 countries, bells were ringing and men and women of all community stripes

and colours were celebrating the 100th birthday of Rotary Clubs International.

The Minden Rotary Club, which received its charter in 1947, marked the occasion at the Delta Pinestone Resort along with partners, past-Rotarians, special dignitaries and members of the Haliburton Rotary Club. Minden Rotarians join the international organization of 1.2 million business and professional leaders to commemorate

achievements of historic proportions: more than two billion children immunized against polio using more than one million Rotarian volunteers in Rotary's goal to eradicate this disease worldwide; and \$69 million worth of grants in 61 countries to fund projects for health, hunger and humanity since 1978.

Where did it begin? A lawyer from a small town, Paul Harris, felt alone in the big city of Chicago. He found three col-

leagues who felt the same way, and they met in each other's offices. This rotation of meeting places sparked the name Rotary.

There are now more than 31,000 clubs distributing more than \$1.1 billion (US) in humanitarian grants.

Ed Pergolas, a retired caterer who lives in Minden, has been a member since 1972. "I like being a Rotarian. It's a fulfillment of life - the people you

see MINDEN page 3

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